

## PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 11-279090

(43)Date of publication of application : 12.10.1999

(51)Int.Cl.

C07C 31/04  
B01J 31/28  
C07C 29/154  
// C07B 61/00

(21)Application number : 10-043760

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FOUND

(22)Date of filing : 25.02.1998

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(30)Priority

Priority number : 09 43289    Priority date : 27.02.1997    Priority country : JP  
10 15381                      28.01.1998

JP

(54) PRODUCTION OF METHANOL

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain methanol in a high yield, by reacting carbon monoxide with hydrogen in the presence of a metal alkoxide and Raney copper containing a specific amount of copper.

SOLUTION: Carbon monoxide is reacted with hydrogen in the presence of (A) a metal alkoxide (e.g. potassium methoxide or the like) and (B) Raney copper (a copper catalyst consisting of a substantially zero-valent copper) having 80.0-99.9 wt.% copper content in a solvent at temperature of 40-200°C under pressure of 120 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>-G. The used amount of the component A is preferably 0.01-100 times as much as the component B. Methanol or a mixed

solvent of metal is preferable as the solvent for the reaction. preferably the used amount of the component A is 0.01-10 wt.% based on the solvent and that of the component B is 0.5-80 wt.%.

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#### LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination] 27.12.2000

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number]

[Date of registration]

[Number of appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of extinction of right]

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